## 2023 SENATE BILL 994

February 7, 2024 - Introduced by Senators Testin, Ballweg and WangGaard, cosponsored by Representatives Mursau, Brandtjen, Edming, Green and O'Connor. Referred to Committee on Financial Institutions and Sporting Heritage.

AN ACT to create $90.21(5 \mathrm{~m})$ of the statutes; relating to: providing grants for double-fencing of farm-raised white-tailed deer.

## Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, a person who keeps farm-raised deer must be registered with the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection and, if keeping white-tailed deer, must also obtain a fence inspection certificate from the Department of Natural Resources. To obtain a DNR fence inspection certificate, a farm-raised white-tailed deer keeper must meet certain fencing requirements; keepers may choose between maintaining a double perimeter fence or a single solid perimeter fence.

In addition, current DATCP rules require a farm-raised deer herd to be enrolled in DATCP's chronic wasting disease (CWD) herd status program before a live deer may be moved off the farm to a place other than to slaughter. To maintain enrollment in the herd status program, the herd must be enclosed by a "double protective barrier" if at least two wild deer found or killed within five miles of the farm-raised deer herd have tested positive for CWD. A "double protective barrier" may be either a double fence or a single solid barrier.

This bill provides that, if DNR or DATCP require a person to maintain a double perimeter fence, install a second perimeter fence, or install a solid perimeter fence around a deer farm, DNR must provide the person with a grant equal to the cost of installing the second perimeter fence or solid perimeter fence.

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For further information see the state fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

## The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. 90.21 (5m) of the statutes is created to read:
90.21 (5m) Grants for double fencing. If the department or the department of agriculture, trade and consumer protection require a person to maintain a double perimeter fence, install a 2 nd perimeter fence, or install a solid perimeter fence around an area containing farm-raised white-tailed deer, the department of natural resources shall provide the person, from the appropriation under s. 20.370 (1) (hs), a grant in an amount equal to the cost of installing the second perimeter fence or of installing the solid perimeter fence.
(END)

